

CLAIMS

1. A packaging apparatus that manufactures a package wherein an article to be packaged and a gas are sealed in a flexible packaging material, wherein

5 said package is manufactured wherein said gas having a temperature different from the outside air and said article to be packaged are sealed.

2. The packaging apparatus as recited in Claim 1, comprising:
a gas temperature modifying unit that changes the temperature of said gas.

10 3. The packaging apparatus as recited in Claim 1, comprising:
the gas temperature modifying unit that changes the temperature of said gas by changing the temperature of said article to be packaged.

15 4. The packaging apparatus as recited in Claim 1, comprising:
the gas temperature modifying unit that changes the temperature of said gas by changing the temperature of said flexible packaging material.

20 5. The packaging apparatus as recited in Claim 1, comprising:
an introducing unit that introduces said article to be packaged and said gas inside said flexible packaging material; and
the gas temperature modifying unit that changes the temperature of said gas by changing the temperature of said introducing unit.

25 6. The packaging apparatus as recited in Claim 1, comprising:
a forming unit that tubularly forms said flexible packaging material, and introduces said article to be packaged and said gas inside said flexible packaging material tubularly formed; and
the gas temperature modifying unit that changes the temperature of said gas by
30 changing the temperature of said forming unit.

7. The packaging apparatus as recited in any one claim of Claim 1 through Claim 6, further comprising:
a control unit that controls the temperature and amount of said gas.

8. The packaging apparatus as recited in any one claim of Claim 1 through Claim 7, wherein:

the gas sealed inside said flexible packaging material has a temperature lower than the outside air.

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9. The packaging apparatus as recited in Claim 8, further comprising:

a sealing unit that hermetically seals said flexible packaging material by sealing said flexible packaging material tubularly formed; and

10 a pair of ironing parts that iron the portion of said flexible packaging material to be sealed, and the vicinity thereof.

10. The packaging apparatus as recited in Claim 1, comprising:

a transporting unit that transports said flexible packaging material tubularly formed downward;

15 a longitudinal sealing unit that seals a longitudinal edge, parallel to the transport direction, of said transported flexible packaging material;

an introducing unit that introduces said article to be packaged and said gas inside said flexible packaging material; and

20 a transverse sealing unit that seals said flexible packaging material in the transverse direction, perpendicular to the transport direction.

11. A packaging method for manufacturing a package wherein articles to be packaged and a gas are sealed in a flexible packaging material, wherein:

25 said package is manufactured wherein said gas having a temperature different from the outside air and said article to be packaged are sealed.

12. A packaging system, comprising:

a packaging apparatus that manufactures a package wherein articles to be packaged and a gas are sealed in a flexible packaging material; and

30 a gas temperature modifying unit provided inside said packaging apparatus or provided separate from said packaging apparatus, and that changes the temperature of the gas before being sealed in said package;

wherein,

35 said packaging apparatus manufactures said package wherein said gas having a temperature different from the outside air and said article to be packaged are sealed.

13. The packaging system as recited in Claim 12, further comprising:
a thermal application unit that performs thermal application processing on said
manufactured package.
- 5 14. The packaging system as recited in Claim 13, wherein
said thermal application unit has a thermostatic chamber that warms said package.
15. The packaging system as recited in Claim 13, wherein
said thermal application unit blows hot air onto said package.
- 10 16. The packaging system as recited in any one claim of Claim 13 through Claim 15,
further comprising:
a postprocessing apparatus that performs postprocessing of said package.
- 15 17. The packaging system as recited in Claim 16, further comprising:
a control unit that controls said gas temperature modifying unit based on detection
information in said postprocessing apparatus.
- 20 18. The packaging system as recited in Claim 16, further comprising:
the control unit that controls said thermal application unit based on detection
information in said postprocessing apparatus.